

Tuesday, November 23, 1999

STS-103 launch date set for Dec. 9



Payloads for future launches on the move



▲ **Shuttle Update:** The launch date for mission STS-103 has been set for Dec. 9. Launch time is 1:10 a.m. for the 10-day mission. Landing is scheduled for about 10:15 p.m. Dec. 18 at the SLF.

▲ **Payload Update:** Two payloads move at KSC last week. The cargo for the *Shuttle Radar Topography Mission*, STS-99, was moved to the Orbiter Processing Facility for installation into the orbiter Endeavour. Launch of SRTM is currently scheduled for Jan. 13, 2000. The *P3 truss*, a segment of the International Space Station, arrived at the SLF last week aboard a Super Guppy aircraft (below). It was transferred to the Operations and Checkout Building where final assembly work will be done,



installing Orbital Replacement Units (ORUs). P3 is scheduled for launch in 2002.

◆ **KSC cafeterias** on Wed., Nov. 24, will not be serving hot entrees. The Grill and Deli Service, plus the Salad Bar will still be available. All cafeterias will be closed Thanksgiving Day and Friday, Nov. 25-26.

◆ **KSC Fitness Centers** announce a Bench Press Competition, Dec. 1 to Dec. 10. Men must lift 100 percent of their body weight and women 60 percent of their body weight as many times as possible. Winners are those who complete the most repetitions within their age group. Schedule a competition time with a Fitness Center staff member. Or call 867-7829 for more information.

◆ **Breast Cancer Screening** will be available on Dec. 14 at a mobile unit in the SW corner of the parking lot behind the Headquarters building. Call 1-800-367-1870 for an appointment.

◆ **Did You Know? Turkey is a true American dish.** Native Americans knew it well since the bird roamed wild throughout the country in the 1400s. Turkeys were no surprise to the Pilgrims either when they landed. The birds had been introduced to Europe a century earlier by the Spanish who had brought them back to Spain after their forays into the Americas.

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday.

Deadlines: 10 a.m. the day before. Send information, comments or questions to:

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Countdown on the Internet -- <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/1999/1999.htm>